

TWO NEW SPECIES FROM TRICHOSANTHES (CUCURBITACEAE)*

Yueh Chun- hsi Huang Lu- qi Cheng Ching- yung

[**ABSTRACT**] *Trichosanthes referacta* Yueh et L. Q. Huang, *Trichosanthes laeoica* C. Y. Cheng et L. Q. Huang two new species of the genus *Trichosanthes* (Cucurbitaceae), the diagnostic characteristics that differentiate these new species from all other species of *Trichosanthes* are described herewith.

Key words *Trichosanthes*; New species; Cucurbitaceae

During a revisional study on the worldwide genus *Trichosanthes*, Cucurbitaceae, we recognized two undescribed species from the South Pacific regions, and provided the specific names and descriptions for these new taxa.

Trichosanthes refracta Yueh sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

Type Philippines, Is. Bohol, Valencia, M. Ramos No. 43279 (UC).

Affinis *T. wallichiana* (Ser.) Wight sed foliis coriaceis lobis oblanceolatis vel elliptico-oblanceolatis bracteolis 0.8–3cm longis 0.6–1.2cm latis rachis inflorescentiae ♂ refractis calycis tubo basi gibboso differt.

Stem greyish green, scabrous and puberulous at node with bifid tendrils. Leaves 7–15cm long, 8–16cm broad; subcoriaceous, deeply palmately 3–7-lobed or divided to the base, middle lobe oblanceolate, elliptical-oblanceolate, occasionally elliptical-ovate, 5–12cm long, 2–3.5cm broad, acuminate, narrow towards the base, lateral ones lanceolate 2–8cm long, margin distantly crenulate-dentate or with 1–2 triangular lobules, base deeply cordate, scabrous above, slightly hairy at the base of nerve on the both sides; petiole 2–4.5cm long, slightly puberulous and scaberulous. Male flowers in raceme 5–11cm long, rachis refracte, puberulous, 7–18 flowered; peduncle erect, stout, 5–7cm long; bract minute, linear-lanceolate, under 1cm long; pedicel about 1cm long; bracteoles cucullate, obovate or rhombic 0.8–

* Yueh Chun- hsi, Huang Lu- qi Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Beijing 100700, China.

Cheng Ching- yung Dep. of Botany, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Beijing Medical University, Beijing 100083, China.

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Fig. 1 *Trichosanthes refracta* Yuedh et L. Q. Huang (A. M. Ramos No. 43279, B. J. P. Van Niel No. 4134) A. Male inflorescence. B. Part of stem with young fruit.

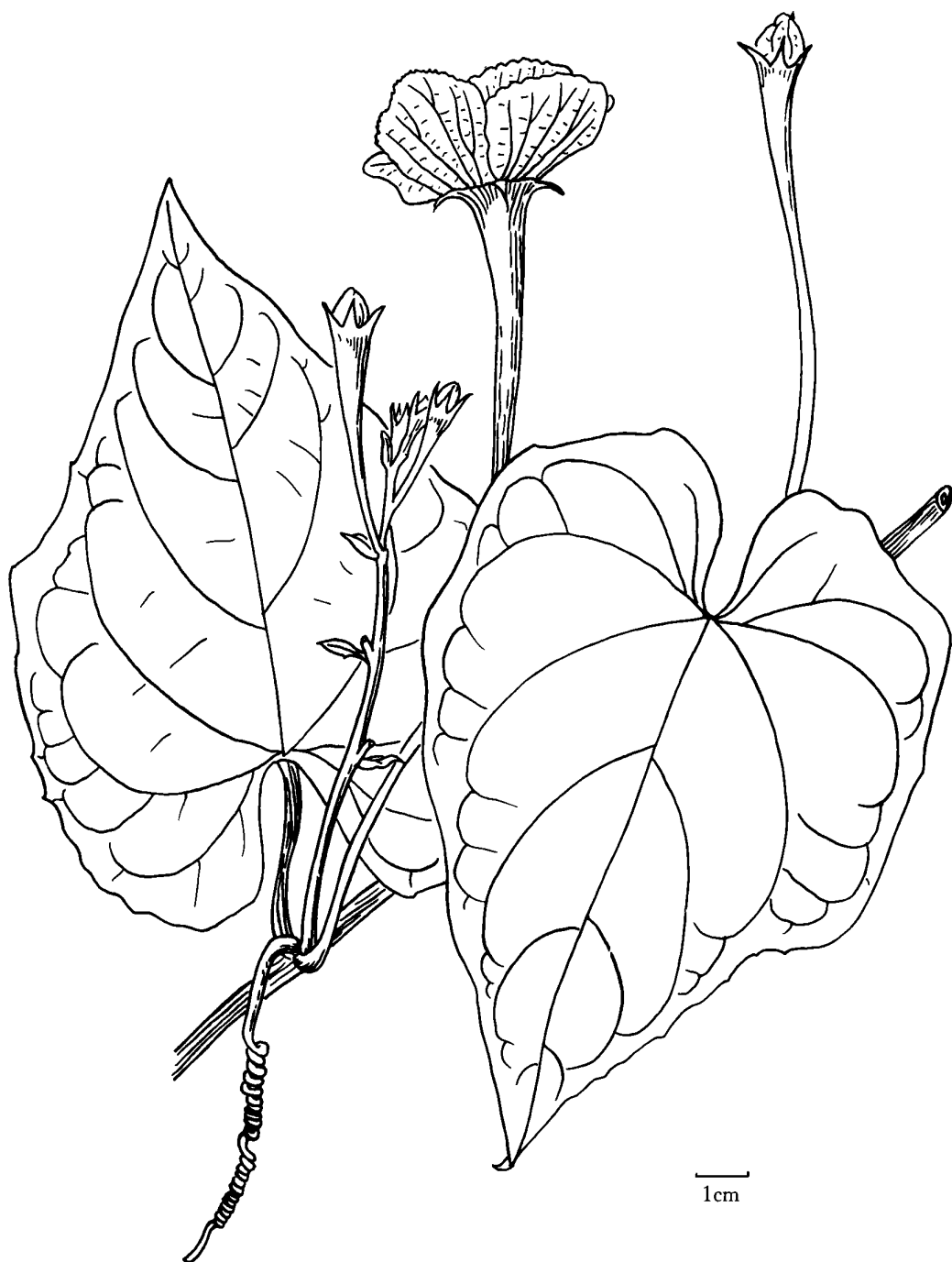


Fig. 2 *Trichosanthes laeoica* C. Y. Cheng L. Q. Huang (Part of stem with male flowers)

3cm long, 0.6–1.2cm broad, acuminate, margin subulate-incisive, calyx tube subcylindrical dilated and gibbose at base, 4–5cm long, lobes linear-lanceolate, 5–7cm long,

about 2mm broad, entire or faintly dentate, corolla in bud. Female flowers in bud, pedicel about 1cm long, bract linear, about 3mm long, calyx tube subcylindrical, short, lobes linear-lanceolate, about 3mm long, entire. Young fruit globose.

Distribution and Ecology: Philippines, Is. Bohol and Brunel, Beglait Distr. Panaga; in damp forest at elevations of 2000 feet.

Additional specimen examined Brunei, Beglait Distr. Panaga, J. P. Van Niel 4134 (Mo).

This species is distinguished from *T. wallichiana* (ser.) Wight whose leaves membranous, rachis of male flowers erect, bracteoles 3.5–4.5cm long by leaves subcoriaceous, rachis of male flowers refradte, bracteoles smaller 0.8–3cm long, calyx tube gibbose at base.

Trichosanthes laeoica C. Y. Cheng et L. Q. Huang, sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

Type New Guinea, Lae, Kassam Pass, M. coode, E. Henty & A. Dockrill N. G. F. 32585 (CANB); isotype, K.

Affinis *T. pulleanae* Cogn. ex Harms sed foliis coriaceis crassioribus subtus tomentosis inflorescentiis ♂ 3–9 floribus bracteolis 8–10mm longis caylis lobis 3–4mm longis integris differt.

Stem stout, grooved and pubescent. Tendrils mostly unbranched. Leaves coriaceous, ovate-triangular or ovate, entire or faintly 2-lobed, 13–16cm long, 9–12cm broad, acuminate at apex, margin denticulate, deeply cordate at base, very rough, white glandular-punctate and pubescent above, densely pubescent beneath, 5-nerved at base, veins reticulate, petiole 4–6cm long. Male inflorescence usually paired, one 1-flowered and the other racemed; racemes 3–9-flowered at the apex, rachis 5–14cm long; bracts obovate-oblong, 8–10mm long, 2–3mm broad, subentire; calyx tube attenuate from the apex towards base, teeth linear-lanceolate, 3–4mm long, about 1mm broad, subentire; petals rhomboelliptic, 2.3–3.5cm long, 1.5–2cm broad, with fringes 5–10mm long. Female flowers and fruit not seen.

Distribution and Ecology: New Guinea, Lae, Kassam Pass, Kainantu subdistrict, Eastern Highlands District; at road side on grass or bare soil of alt. c. 4200 feet.

This species is distinguished from *T. Pulleana* Cogn. ex harms whose leaves subcoriaceous, thinner, glabrous beneath, male raceme 20–25 flowered, rachis under 3cm long, bracteoles smaller 6–8 long, sepals 8–11mm long, margin dentate by leaves coriaceous, thicker, densely pubescent beneath, male raceme 3–9 flowered, rachis 5–14cm long, bracteoles 8–10mm long, sepals 3–4mm long, entire.

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